

D 4385

MUNICIPAL POLICE
S.D. REGISTRY
B.D. 4385
22 10 41

2013/41.

-A
Central
Oct. 21st,

41.

2. Final.

33.

At 11a.m. October 21, Sung Wen Chong visited the Commercial Press and was accordingly arrested by C.D.C. 344.

Sung emphatically denied that he had intimidated Mr. Wong over the telephone, or that he had visited the Commercial Press with several undesirables during the afternoon of October 7.

He further asserted that his visit to the Commercial Press on October 21 was for the purpose of removing some personal property.

Mr. Wong later attended the Station and after giving consideration to all points requested that no criminal action be taken against Sung provided he signed a statement promising not to molest him again. This Sung did.

For obvious reasons Mr. Wong's request was complied with there being a desire on his part not to antagonize his loyal employee.

Sung was released on promising not to create further trouble.

File forwarded for classification.

S.D.C. 41

INDEXED BY
(S.D.) REGISTRY
DATE 23/10/41

Sl
Sl
22.10.41

22/10
Sl. Kao
by

R. H. H.

2913/41.

"A"

Central

8th October

41

33.

8 to 10pm.7-10-41.
9 to 12m.n.8-10-41.

Commercial Press,
Det. Office.

211 Honan Road.

5.30p.m.7-10-41.
8p.m.7-10-41.

Mr. K. S. Wong (王康生), Manager, Commercial Press,
211 Honan Road.

Six (not arrested).

Sung Wen Chong (陳文昌), age about 26,
Shanghai, wearing foreign style clothing.
Description of others not available.

Nil.

Intimidated by ex-employees.
Visited Commercial Press with leaflets to
intimidate or assault complainant.

During the evening of October 8th, 1941, Mr. K. S. Wong (王錦生), Manager of the Commercial Press, 211 Honan Road, telephoned D. I. Moir reporting that he had reasons to believe that certain ex-employees of the Commercial Press were intimidating him and making his life miserable.

D. I. Moir later interviewed Mr. Wong and elicited from him that the trouble is the out-come of the strike which was recently settled. It will be recalled that the strike at the Commercial Press lasted several weeks.

This settlement resulted in the Company dispensing with the services of several of their employees.

The dismissed employees received adequate reparation, i.e., 9 months pay, (approved by Social Welfare Bureau) and signed a document relieving the Commercial Press of further obligations so far as they were concerned.

Amongst those whose services were dispensed with were three agitators and trouble-makers, namely (1) Tang Wen Chong (唐文昌), (2) Soong Shing Kung (宋錫廣) and (3) Tse Wei Shun (朱維堃).

These men have apparently self-appointed themselves leaders of the dismissed workers and to all intents and purposes are out to make as much trouble as they can.

They are arrogant individuals and by their tactics it is quite obvious that they intend to make Mr. Wong's life miserable.

The Commercial Press are under no obligation whatsoever to these men and Mr. Wong is not obliged to see them.

As a result of their recent activities Mr. Wong has been obliged to restrict his activities to such an extent that it is now considered necessary to afford him Police protection.

At 10.40 a.m. October 2, 1941, Zung Wen Chong, Soong Shing Kung, and Tzu Wei Shu forced their way into Mr. Wong's office and demanded that he dispense with the services of certain coolies employed by the Hung Zung Cleaning Company and reinstate some of dismissed workers.

Mr. Wong stated that his firm was not prepared to entertain such a proposition and that they were under no obligation to their former employees.

Police were called and the intruders were requested to leave the building. They were also warned to keep away. (See C.Nice.838/41).

During the afternoon of Friday, October 3, 1941, some-one telephoned Mr. Ting Yung Hwei (), who is in charge of the General Affairs Department.

The anonymous caller who Mr. Ting Yung Hwei

recognised by his voice to be Zung Wen Chong spoke as follows:

"If anything happens to Mr. Wong, I cannot be responsible."

As a result of this message Mr. Wong became very alarmed and has been compelled to restrict his movements.

Further developments occurred at about 5.30p.m. October 7, when Zung Wen Chong entered the Commercial Press and enquired of the firm's private detective one named Sung Kwei Moh (沈桂木) if Mr. Wong was in the office. The private detective saw that Zung Wen Chong was accompanied by five male Chinese of the loafer class, who were standing on the opposite side of the road. Zung Wen Chong told the private detective that he resented Mr. Wong's action in calling in the Police on October 2.

He later left the building and was seen to converse with the loafers.

Mr. Wong was not in at the time, but it is his usual custom to leave the building at about 5.30p.m. daily.

It is not quite apparent that the purpose of Sung's visit with the loafers was either to assault Mr. Wong or create a public scene when he was leaving

the premises.

It is also known that Zung Wen Chong was loitering in the vicinity of the Commercial Press at about 9 a.m. October 8. Detectives failed to locate him.

Necessary precautions have been taken, meanwhile detectives are continuing enquiries in an endeavour to locate Zung Wen Chong.

If these men are permitted to continue with such tactics it will be impossible for Mr. Wong to attend to his business, and further more if they get away with it they will eventually exercise much control over the loyal employees.

A determined effort will be made to locate Zung Wen Chong.

Enquiries proceeding.

D.D.O. "A" Div.

R. M. M.
D. I.
C.D.S. 200.

12 10 11
[Signature]
Copy to S.I. direct.

5.1

4385-
11 10 44

Central

Wise.838/41

Oct. 2nd, 1941.

Ex-employees of the Commercial Press call
WONG KAM-SHI.

Sir,

At 10.40a.m. October 2nd, 1941, Mr. K.S. Wong, Manager of the Commercial Press, 211 Honan Road, telephoned the Station reporting that three of the ex-employees, namely Sang Hsing Keng (宋新庚), Tzu Wei Hei (朱維基) and Zung Vung Chong (鍾文昌) had entered his office and were annoying him.

These men who claimed to represent dismissed employees had called upon Mr. Wong for the purpose of insisting that the company employ some of the dismissed employees as cleaning coolies and dispense with the services of the Hong Kong Cleaning Company who have done this work for several years.

Mr. Wong stated that his Company was not prepared to entertain such a proposition and that they were under no obligation to any of their former employees.

The three intruders left the building when advised to do so by detectives.

Detectives are keeping in touch with Mr. Wong.

5.1
3-10-41

C.S. 1.1. V.
3/10
1.4.40



Ray

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

4385-
20 7 41S.1. Special Branch, ~~XXXX~~ File No. Date July 19, 1941.

SUBJECT: Commercial Press Unemployed Workers' Lien Nyl Society.

The "Commercial Press Unemployed Workers' Lien Nyl Society" (商務印書館失業同人聯誼會) is in the course of formation with a preparatory office at Lane 7, House 9 Chengtu Road. It is promoted by the following:-

ZEE TING YEE	(徐鼎儀)
ZUNG BEI YUNG	(陳培鏞)
PAO YUIN TEH	(包雲德)
SZE ZANG TEH	(施尚德)
LEE CHIN LAI	(鄺金蘭)
KOO TSENG KWEI	(顧正桂)
VAN YIH SHING	(萬益興)
WONG FOH ZIEN	(王福全)
PAN YUNG LING	(潘榮林)



Endeavours are being made to register unemployed workers of the Commercial Press, and it is learned that some 30 persons have been registered. As far as is known, no charges are collected during the registration.

Loh Wei Kong
D. S. I.

A. C. (Special Branch).

FILE
by 1/20/41

INDEXED BY
S. S. I. REGISTRY
DATE 21/7/41

4325-
14
Extract from Daily Intelligence Report dated June 20, 1941.

Commercial Press - strike settled

In connection with the strike of 1,131 employees of the Commercial Press, the dispute was settled on June 19 when the management agreed to issue a gratuity equivalent to nine months' wages (without rice allowance) to 544 employees whose services are to be dispensed with owing to the unfavourable financial condition of the company. The management also promised to reinstate the discharged employees when the company needs hands in future.

The company has decided to re-open for business on July 1, 1941.

Distribution

Stations south of Creek

FILE
21/20
15

4385
26 6 41

Excerpt from Daily Intelligence Report dated June 20, 1941.

Commercial Press - strike settled

In connection with the strike of 1,151 employees of the Commercial Press, the dispute was settled on June 19 when the management agreed to issue a gratuity equivalent to nine months' wages (without rice allowances) to 844 employees whose services are to be dispensed with owing to the unfavourable financial condition of the company. The management also promised to reinstate the discharged employees when the company needs funds in future.

The company has decided to re-open for business on July 1, 1941.

Distribution

Stations south of Creek

FILE
26
3

Misc. 168/41.

"B"
Sinha
June 20,

41.

4

LOCK OUT OF COMMERCIAL PRESS EMPLOYEES.

Further to this case:

An extract from Daily Intelligence Report, dated June 20, 1941, reads as follows:-

"Commercial Press - Strike settled.

In connection with the strike of 1,131 employees of the Commercial Press, the dispute was settled on June 19, when the management agreed to issue a gratuity equivalent to nine months' wages (without rice allowance) to 544 employees whose services are to be dispensed with owing to the unfavourable financial condition of the company. The management also promised to reinstate the discharged employees when the company needs hands in future.

The company has decided to re-open for business on July 1, 1941."

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully suggested that this file be now closed.

Copy to Special Branch (direct).

51
100/6
JUNE 21 6/41
10/21/6
S.S.C. "B" Div.

Am/b
M. S. S. Div.

7/2
J. S. S. Div.

Misc. 108/41.

"B"
SINZA
25-4-41.

3

LOOK OUT OF COMMERCIAL PRESS EMPLOYEES

On the instructions of the D.C. (Crime), the Officer in charge Sinza and a party of Police attended the offices of the Commercial Press located at No. 594 Subbing Well Road at 11 p.m. on the 25-4-41., and found that the door of the premises was locked. Same on the request of the Police was opened by C.P.W. 1980 and on the party proceeding to the 1st floor of the establishment, it was found that two persons, who proved to be (1) Zee Kyi Chong (徐季昌) 29, Accountant, and (2) Hong Ah Kong (黄阿江), 30, private fireman, were sleeping inside the premises.

These two persons on the instructions of the Police left the premises and no untoward incident took place.

As no representative of the firm was present, the doors were locked and the keys are at present in the custody of the Officer in charge Sinza Police Station.

Sub. Ret. 1/5.

D.C.O. "B" Division.

D.S.I.

Copy to Special Branch (direct).

PR 25-4-41

Misc. 168/41.

"B"

Sinza

April 24,

41.

2 (Sheet 1)

LOCK OUT OF COMMERCIAL PRESS EMPLOYEES

It is to be reported that since the "Lock Out" declared by the Commercial Press on April 22, 1941, there have been no disturbances among the employees of the Printing Department located at No. 694 Bubbling Well Road. However, majority of the staff, which consists of some three hundred persons, have been daily reporting for work. They loiter in and around the premises awaiting the result of the negotiations at present under way between the management and the Printer's Union.

From enquiries made it seems that the employees of this department were not concerned in the "sit down" strike staged at the Commercial Press Offices, 211 Roman Road. They were apparently willing to commence work on April 22, but were prevented from doing so by the management when they declared a "lock out" following the incident that took place at the Roman Road Department.

Police have been on duty at No. 694 Bubbling Well Road since the morning of April 22, and the Officer i/c., Senior Detective and the undersigned have been in daily contact with the senior employees of this department. Moreover, despite certain information that has come to the notice of the Police, namely, that senior employees were believed to have been forcibly detained; that meetings were being held there by the employees;

Misc. 168/41.

"B"
Sinza
April 24,

41.

2 (sheet 2)

of the Commercial Press, and that the management desired the employees ejected, Police were unable to confirm or obtain any evidence that such happenings had taken place.

At 10:30 A.M. today - April 24- the Officer i/c., Inspector Ching Mien Tsung, and the undersigned visited No.694 Bubbling Well Road, and found that some fifty or sixty employees were loitering in and around the premises. Nevertheless they were quiet and orderly. The situation was discussed with the Assistant Manager, Ting Ying Kwei (丁英桂), who, after a lengthy talk with the employees present, persuaded most of them to leave the printing shop so that he could secure it pending resumption of work. The offices in the upper portion of the building, however, remained open and were more or less being used as an Information Bureau for the staff, during the course of the negotiations that are taking place. When the aforementioned officers left the building at 11:45 A.M., only about twenty senior employees remained on the premises.

In view of the fact that these employees are quite orderly, and that no instructions have been received to eject them from the premises, no action has been taken other than posting Police in the vicinity.

Copy to Special
Branch (direct).

Gen. Det. etc.

B.B.C. "B" Division.

Am 25/4

Special Branch

4385

23 11 41

"B"

Miss. 122/41.

Sinon
April 23rd,

41.

1.

Labour Unrest at Commercial Press Printing Department.

Sir,

In view of the unrest reported among the employees of the Commercial Press Printing Department, 694 Bubbling Well Road, C.D.S. 67 was detailed to investigate and keep the place under observation.

At 6.20 a.m. on April 23, 1941, a report was received from Central Station to the effect that Commercial Press employees were on strike in Central District.

On C.D.S. 121 and the undersigned visiting 694 Bubbling Well Road, however, it was learned that the management, in view of the fact that the labour union were negotiating with them for an increase in employees wages, asked the 6.20 a.m. shift, comprising thirty eight men, not to start work until a settlement of the dispute had been reached.

Respect for Information.

Very truly yours (Signed).

Sir,
C.D.S. 121
Said
Y.E. 121
okk

INDEXED BY
(S.B.) REGISTRY
DATE 11/2/41

[Signature]

4385
29 5 41

Misc. 329/41.

"A"
Central
May 28th,

41.

6.

AC (3/Brande)
Sir
Your copy
Office
C.D.2

Commercial Press Ltd. - Strike

At 12.15p.m. 28-5-41, D.S.I. Wilcox, attached to S.I., informed C.I. Boddy that 150 strikers of the Commercial Press, Shanghai Sales Office Employees Society, would attempt to hold a meeting at 150 Canton Road and that the meeting was to be prevented. Accordingly between 1.45p.m. and 3p.m. a Police Party under S.I. Barton attended. Between 50 and 60 persons left the building upon the arrival of the Police.

Free
Sen.Det.

Crimson
D. S. I.



D.S.O. "A"

INDEXED
REGISTRY
DATE 29/5/41

Handwritten signatures and initials at the bottom of the page.

5.1

4385

3 5 41

"A"

Misc. 329/41.

Central
May 2nd,

41.

5.

Commercial Press Ltd - Strike

On 1-5-41 a Mr. Li, representing the management in Hongkong, arrived in Shanghai, by the s.s. KWANGTUNG, for the purpose of negotiating with the strikers.

At 7p.m. 1-5-41, a meeting was held at the Honan Road premises between the management and representatives of the strikers. At this meeting the management formally notified the employees that they would receive pay as usual for the period of the lock-out. It is believed that no other business was discussed.

At the request of the management, about ten clerks were allowed to enter the Honan Road premises from 9a.m. 2-5-41 in order that they pay sheets might be compiled.

At 3.30p.m. 2-5-41, information was received that a Notice had been posted on the front door of the Honan Road premises by the striker's Committee. A translation follows:-

"As the result of a conference, it has been decided that those attached to the Pay Office and Personnel Dept. return to work for the time being in order to issue wages or salaries on the 2nd inst. As in the usual custom, they should report to their respective superiors prior to their return to work. Those attached to other Departments are not permitted to return to work until the strike ends. It was discussed that any employees had returned."



5/1
1005
4

5/2.

work without permission, they would be looked upon
as "running dogs". Please behave yourselves.

The Commercial Press
Employees Committee.
2-5-41. "

Rh⁰/5
Sen. Det.

Cimson
D. S. I.

D.D.O. RA

51
Misc. 329/41.

Central
Apr. 25th,

41.

4.

Commercial Press Ltd. - Strike.

At 8 a.m. 23-4-41, Mr. K.S. Wong, Secretary of the Commercial Press, came to the Station and requested the undersigned to convey to Bubbling Well Station the desire of Mr. Lee, Manager of the Commercial Press to lock and guard the premises of the Company at 226 Yu Yuen Road. This request was conveyed to the officer-in-charge, Bubbling Well Station, who complied.

On 24-4-41 Mr. K.S. Wong both telephoned and visited the undersigned requesting that the workers be evicted from the Company's Printing Works at 226 Bubbling Well Road.

The undersigned communicated with the D.C. (Crime) and was informed that Officer i/s Sings Station had already been given instructions to maintain a close watch upon the situation at this address.

Later D.S.I. Sambrook telephoned requesting information of the undersigned regarding the strike. This officer stated that the workers were quite orderly and that in view of this that no action was being taken by the Police other than the usual precautionary measures.

No further developments have been reported to the Police at the time of the undersigned.

4385-
26 H H

"A"

1941
BRANCH

Rm 20/4
Sen. Det.

51

D.S.O. "A"

6/26/4

Copy to S.I.
(11/2/41)

Special Branch.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY

D. 4385

"A"

Misc.329/41

Central
22/4/41

2

Commercial Press Ltd.- Strike.

At 4.30p.m. 22/4/41, a telephone call was received from D.S.I. Wilcox, Special Branch, reporting that the employees of the Commercial Press Ltd., 211 Honan Rd. had commenced a "sit down" strike.

C.D.S.86 and the undersigned attended and ascertained that the workers of the above Company had presented demands to the management on 18/4/41, these demands stipulated that the salaries of all employees be increased to a total of 120%, however as the Head Office of the Company is in Hongkong the workers decided to declare a "go slow" strike to enable the management to communicate with their Hongkong Office, should no satisfaction be obtained by the workers on 21/4/41 then a "sit down" strike would be declared.

The management in Shanghai contacted the Hongkong Offices and on 22/4/41 a notification was received by Mr. Lee, manager, Shanghai Branch informing him that the workers demands could not be considered, the workers were informed of this decision whereupon the workers immediately stopped work and locked the doors of the premises so that business was completely suspended, the workers then contacted the company's various branches in the Settlement and the French Concession, the result being

91
b, 53/5
W. 10/4

Page 2

that the whole of the company's staff is now on strike.

The workers in the other branches all left their respective premises peacefully while the workers in the premises at 211 Menan Rd., about 200 in number, sat down in their respective departments and refused to leave the premises, at the same time they threatened to go on a "hunger" strike for 48 hours as a reprisal against the Company, as no trouble was anticipated the manager Mr. Lee was quite willing to allow the strikers to remain on the premises.

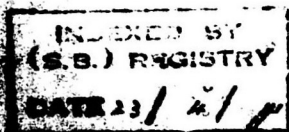
Copy to S.I
direct.

Special Branch are watching the situation closely, while the usual Police precautions are being taken.

RM 23
4
Sec. Det. 1/0

J. Buckley
S. P. D.
C.D.S. 86

D. D. G. "A"



"A"

Misc.329/41

Central
23/4/41

3

Commercial Press Ltd. - Strike.

At 7.5p.m.22/4/41 a telephone message was received from Mr. Lee, manager of the Commercial Press, reporting that some of the senior employees of the firm were being detained by strikers on the firm's premises at 211 Honan Rd. C.D.S.337 and D.S.I. Mason attended and found all the grilles locked. The strikers, under the leadership of one Tsao Zee Liang (趙志良) readily opened the grille however, and admitted detectives. They then escorted them to a 1st floor office where Mr. C.L. Bau (鮑君林) assistant manager, and Mr. K.S. Wong (王君士), secretary, were privately interviewed.

Mr. Bau and Mr. Wong informed the undersigned that at about 3p.m. 22/4/41, the staff had declared a "sit down" strike and passed a resolution to remain on the premises without food for 48 hours. When questioned as to whether they were being detained against their will, both Mr. Bau and Mr. Wong declared that they were staying on the premises willingly, although the inference was that the strikers expected them to remain. Mr. Bau and Mr. Wong were then asked definitely if they desired to leave with Police assistance. They were opposed to this and maintained that they would rather remain than ~~aggravate~~ the strike situation by the use of Police assistance. The undersigned accordingly left the premises, promising to

return on the morning of 23/4/41 to enquire if they were still of the same mind.

At 9.30p.m. 22/4/41 Mr. Zau Ping Nien (曹平年), sales manager of the Company, called on the undersigned at the station at the request of Mr. Lee, the General Manager, and stated that the families of four of the senior employees were worried about them. He therefore requested Police assistance to escort them from the premises. This gentleman was informed by the undersigned of the attitude adopted by Mr. Bau, the assistant manager, and in consequence he telephoned to Mr. Lee at his home requesting the latter to come to the station and consult with the undersigned.

However at 9.55p.m. 22/4/41, a telephone message was received from the D.C. (Crime), instructing C.I. Boddy to lead a Police party to the shop premises, release the senior employees and eject the strikers. Accordingly at 10.10p.m. a strong party under C.I. Boddy proceeded to the shop and after some slight delay, were admitted by the strikers. No opposition was encountered and all the strikers left the premises quietly after the following five senior employees had been escorted to the station:-

Mr. C. L. Bau (包康平)
Mr. H. H. Wang (王康石)

Mr. Sze Chiu Yui (史久善)
Mr. Wong Tsong Ming (黃仲明)
Mr. Kyi Pah Kyi (徐百齊)

In addition to the Company's firemen and watchmen, eight C.P.C.s have been posted on the premises as a precautionary measure.

The management anticipate possible sabotage as a result of these developments and have requested protection for the following premises:-

Sales Offices

Head Office, 211 Honan Road (Central)
Bubbling Well Branch, 226 Yu Yuen Rd. (B'W.)
Avenue Jeffre Branch, 501 Avenue Jeffre (F.C.)

Printing Works

694 Bubbling Well Rd. (Sinza)
1110 Gordon Road (P.R.)
299 Kinkiang Rd. (C.)
House 5 Passage 302 Fokien Rd. (L)

Stores

306 Canton Rd. (S.)
26 Rue Montebello (F.C.)
400 Rue Chen (F.C.)
604 Rue Robert (F.C.)
488 A Rue de la Tour (F.C.)

Settlement stations have been warned to take the

*French Police
inform of
particulars
May 23/4*

Page 4

Copy to S.I.
direct.

necessary precautions and the French Commission Police
will also be notified.

Rh²³
4

Sen. Det. 1/c

Cimora

D. S. I.

D. D. O. "A"

ackd
12/23/6

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

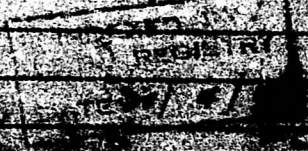
REPORT ON STRIKE

6385
21 H 111

"A" Division
 Central Station Miss 322/41 12/4/41 193
 Time and date reported 8 p.m. 12/4/41 Time and date S.B. informed 8.55 p.m. 12/4/41
 Time and date strike commenced 2 p.m. 12/4/41
 By whom reported Manager, Head Office, Commercial Press Ltd.
 Trade or profession of strikers Printers
 Number of strikers 150 Male -- Female -- Apprentices --
 Employer's name, address and business Commercial Press Ltd. 411, Nansen Rd.
 Union to which strikers belong --
 Cause of strike and demands made by strikers Demand increase in wages.
 When did discontent amongst strikers first commence --
 What action (if any) did employers take to remedy cause of discontent prior to commencement of strike None.
 What action (if any) have the employers taken to meet the demands of the strikers None.
 Names and addresses of strike leaders --
 Has the strike or its cause any political inspiration Unknown.
 Meeting places of strikers --
 Number of persons arrested for offences arising out of strike --
 Particulars of literature (if any) circulated relative to strike --
 Names and addresses of printer of such literature --
 Proceedings taken by Police --
 Remarks --



by 1914



"A"

Misc. 329/-

Central
18/4/41

1

**Tai-Kang Strike at Commercial Press Ltd.
411 Konan Road.**

At about 5p.m. 18/4/41 a telephone call was received from the Head Office, Commercial Press Ltd., 411 Konan Rd. reporting that a strike of the office workers at their head office were on strike.

C.D.S.86 and the undersigned attended and ascertained that at 3p.m. 18/4/41 all the workers (approx. 150) stopped work and presented demands to the Manager, these demands stipulate that the wages of all workers be increased to a total of 120%, however as this could not be settled immediately the workers refused to leave the premises, however no trouble was made by the strikers.

After about two hours (5p.m.) the workers decided to resume work on a modified basis for another 3 days to enable the manager to consider their demands, should no satisfaction be obtained by the morning of 21/4/41 the strikers have decided to have a "sit down" strike.

Special Branch informed.

RM 18/4
Sen. Sec. 1/6

S. Shackley
D. P. S.
C.D.S.86

6 19/4
D. D. G. "A"

Copies to be sent to
A.C. (P. J.)

September 15, 1939.

Afternoon Translation

THE AFFAIRS OF THE COMMERCIAL PRESS

The "Sin Wan Pao" publishes the following notice inserted by the Commercial Press:-

Yesterday a notice was published in the newspapers by a so-called "Entire body of employees of the Commercial Press" addressed to the company's partners and the public. As this notice affects the reputation of this firm, we hereby make the following statement in reply:-

The notice says that "the firm cares only about its own interests and is without sympathy", that "the firm has changed its attitude since the resumption of operations," and that "the measures for the purchase of rice by the company to be sold at a low price to the workers be opposed."

After the outbreak of hostilities, the business of the firm became much depressed. With a view to maintaining the livelihood of the employees, the entire body of workers was retained and not a single one was dismissed, only their pay was reduced. Subsequently the pay of the junior employees was gradually restored to the original rate. By the beginning of August this year, the pay of all the employees had been restored to their old scale while those whose pay is small have had their pay increased in view of the high cost of living.

Later, when the price of rice began to rise, the employees demanded allowances. General Manager Wang had to consider the situation for the company was already over-burdened by the recent salary increases.

Unexpectedly the employees organized an association and went on a go-alow strike on August 22 but resumed work on August 31 when it was promised that pay would be issued for the period of the strike. On September 1, they started a second go-alow strike and published a notice in the papers stating that the promises of the firm had not been kept. Just as the management of the Press was going to give a reply, the employees resumed operations on the advice of the senior staff. General Manager Wang had kept his promise not to deduct the wages of the workers for the period of the strike.

Meanwhile, General Manager Wang had devised certain measures for the purchase of rice. The management of the Press had agreed to advance a sum of \$10,000 for the purchase of rice to be sold to the employees at \$10 per picul when the market price of rice is quoted at \$20 per picul. \$50 piculs of rice would be supplied every month, which would have meant an expenditure of about \$50,000 by the firm. The demands of the employees were prevented because of the high

FILE
fay

4385
22 9 39

September 15, 1939.

Afternoon Translation

Price of rice, therefore measures of relief in the form of supplying rice to the workers were drawn up. If the market price is quoted at \$40, the burden of each person would be lightened by \$12.50. As the firm is in financial difficulties, it had to put some restrictions regarding the number of persons in a worker's family or the district in which a worker lives. Upon the announcement of these measures, they were strongly opposed. The distribution of forms to ascertain the number of members in each family was obstructed.

We hereby reveal the above to the public and appeal for a fair judgment.

24045

4385

24 8 39

CHINA PRESS.

AUG 24 1939

Local Print Plant Strike Is Continued

Still determined to force through their demands for increased living allowances, workers of the Commercial Press, Ltd., continued their sit-down strike yesterday and were still refusing to work at the close of business yesterday.

The sit-down strikers were on the premises of the Commercial Press store on Honan Road near Foochow Road at the opening of the establishment yesterday morning and were still there last night. The strikers issued another notice to the press last night, stating:

"The sit-down strike commenced Tuesday morning at the Commercial Press, Ltd., continued quietly throughout yesterday. The employees feel grateful for the numerous expressions of sympathy shown them by the public, both by word of mouth and in writing.

"Flat refusal on the part of the management to accede to the demands for allowances presented by the employees is the cause of the strike."

Lili
Cot

4385
24 8 39

August 23, 1939.

Afternoon Translation.

Siao Suh Jih Pao (小报), a Mesquite paper :-

ENTIRE BODY OF EMPLOYEES OF COMMERCIAL PRESS ON GO-SLOW STRIKE

Yesterday morning the entire body of employees of the Commercial Press went on a go-slow strike after their demands for the issue of a high cost of living allowance, the restoration of the bonus system and an annual increase of pay were rejected.

Mr. See Chiu-yuin (史久英), Chief of the Personnel Department, has requested the men to keep calm and to await a settlement. He has sent a telegram to Mr. Wang Yain-wu (王延武), the manager, who is in Hongkong, asking for his instructions.

FILE

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

AUG 23 1939

Commercial Press Men Go on Strike

Demand for "Allowances" Rejected

Their demand for "allowances" by reason of the increased cost of living consequent upon the decrease in the value of the Chinese dollar having been turned down by their management, employees of the Shanghai office of the Commercial Press Ltd., the biggest Chinese publishing firm, in Foochow Road declared a sit-down strike commencing yesterday.

The striking employees sent printed pamphlets in both Chinese and English to various organizations appealing for the sympathy of the public in their present trouble. It was stated that negotiations for "allowances" to compensate the loss resulting from the drop of the Chinese dollar had been carried out with the head of the Personnel Department of the company, but the demand was turned down.

The responsible persons of the company who are in Hongkong, where the head office of the company has moved since the hostilities, were stated to be most firm in their stand against any increase of wages. Mr. Wang Yung-wu, manager of the firm, was criticized in a Chinese letter addressed to the public appealing for help.

File
C03
4

'We Want Rice' Demands Made To Print Firm

Sit-Down Strike Staged By Commercial Press Employees Here

"Which, Mediation or...?" demanded Chinese employees of the Commercial Press yesterday when they instituted a "We Want Rice" sit-down-strike in the premises of the company on Honan Road near Foochow Road yesterday.

The question was put to the general public in the form of posters, written both in English and Chinese, asking for co-operation in pressing their demands for a wage increase to meet the situation which has arisen as the result of the fall in exchange and the current rice shortage in Shanghai.

Although a detail of police was ordered to the scene of the strike immediately after the notices had been displayed outside the company's premises, at the corner of Honan and Foochow Roads, just west of the Central Station, the services of the squad were not required up to a late hour last night.

Note To Customers

Because of the strike, declared yesterday morning, business on the premises of the Commercial Press store was at a standstill. As they entered the place, customers were handed a typewritten note, which stated:

"Dear customers: Under unbearable pressure of living standards here we are obliged to take a claim of sit-down strike as a protest against the company's unfair treatment and consequently we regret that we are not in a position to be of any service to you during this moment of our struggle. Unless the authorities of this company realize their misrule and find some means to save us from hunger, there will be no hope to keep us quietly at work. Should you sympathize with us, please send your help and support for the sake of Justice and Humanity."

In a letter to the English language press, the sit-down strikers declared:

"Being hard pressed by the unprecedented drop of the Chinese dollar recently the employees of the Commercial Press Ltd. here in Shanghai, demanded rightful allowances commensurate with the ever rising cost of living."

"After undertaking several negotiations between the representatives of the employees and the management, represented by the head of the personnel department, the result was nil."

"As it is a well known fact that we are not only and our families are dependent on our wages to live, we have no choice but to take this step."

"We are sure that the public will sympathize with our struggle and will help us to win our demands for a wage increase."

HAI KUN
S. B. D. 23941
S. B. D. 7385
ute 23 8-29

SHANGHAI EVENING POST & MERCURY.

AUG 22 1939

**Commercial Press
Employees Strike**
Employees of the Commercial Press at 11 a.m. today commenced a sit-down strike, following the failure of negotiations between their representatives and the management for a rise in salary. The request was made for "rightful allowances to commensurate with the ever rising cost of living."

Lil
C22
8

Ta Hui Pao and other local newspapers 8-22-38 (PM)

THE LABOUR DISPUTE IN THE COMMERCIAL PRESS

The dispute between the workers and the management of the Commercial Press has not yet been settled despite the efforts of the Commercial Press Staff Association. Yesterday a letter was issued by the Association repudiating the various points mentioned in the notice issued by the management of the company which alleged that the three demands submitted by the Association were contrary to law and had been drawn without any consideration for the difficulties of the company.

FILE

Chinese-American Daily News and other local newspapers :- 21-12-38 (AM)

THE WORKERS OF THE COMMERCIAL PRESS

Six representatives of the workers of the Commercial Press called at the General Office on Henan Road at about 10 a.m. yesterday to continue negotiations over the men's demands for the restoration of the original scale of pay. The management refused to receive the callers, whereupon the entire body of workers became greatly indignant.

Fearing further incidents, the Commercial Press Workers Mutual Aid Association has decided to submit appeals to various organs and public bodies this morning, asking for support.

S. B. D. 2006-9

SHANGHAI EVENING POST & MERCURY.

DEC 20 1929

Commercial Press Workers Stage Strike

Negotiations were being continued today between the management of the Commercial Press, one of the largest publishing houses in China, and its workers, who declared a strike yesterday for the reinstatement of their wage scale to its pre-war level. Acting on instructions from the president of the company, who is now in Hongkong, the management yesterday turned down the workers' demands. As a result the workers staged a two-hour sit-down strike. Quarters involved in the dispute today expressed little hope of an early settlement. Meanwhile, operations of the company's local plant are being continued with skeleton staff.

File 7/12
C 2/12

DEC 20 1938

600 Workers Of Publishing House Strike

Commercial Press Plant
Remains Idle For
Two Hours

RESTORATION OF
OLD WAGES ASKED

Settlement Of Dispute
Believed To Be
Distant

Six hundred workers in the factories of the Commercial Press went on a two-hour sit-down strike early yesterday morning after failing to conduct negotiations with the company for the re-instatement of the workers' wage scale to its pre-war level.

The dispute between the workers and the company began a fortnight ago, where representatives of the workers presented the following demands to the company:

1. Recognition of the "Commercial Press Workers' Co-operative Association," the workers' newly organized union;
2. A subsidy to cover the expenditures of the Association and
3. Restoration of the workers' wages to their pre-war level.

Company Unyielding

On receipt of these three demands, officials of the Company communicated with Mr. Wang Yun-wo, President of the Company, now in Hongkong. Replying, Mr. Wang, the China Press learned, instructed the officials that "to accept the workers' terms would be tantamount to suicide in view of the difficulties already confronting the Company."

In accordance with the President's instructions, and on the ground that the union is not legally existent, officials of the company here refused to negotiate with representatives of the workers.

Statement Issued

In an official statement yesterday evening, the company set forth its position regarding the present dispute with the workers.

Explaining why it would not restore the workers' wages to their pre-war levels, the statement revealed the amount of damage the firm sustained by the company as a result of the Sino-Japanese conflict.

Losses amounting to several millions were said to have been sustained by the company as a result of the burning of the company's branch in Shanghai and the destruction of the branch in Wuchow.

Losses sustained by the company, the statement stated, were not yet fully recovered. When China fell, it was said, the company had a stock of 100,000 copies of the Chinese Encyclopedia.

Many losses sustained by the company, the statement stated, were not yet fully recovered.

of the climbing foreign exchange.

Altogether, the statement added, less than ten of the Company's 30 branches in all parts of China are still operating, and even their sales receipts are much lower today than they were before the war.

Workers Well Treated

Concerning the company's treatment of its workers, the statement revealed that despite mounting costs of production and diminishing sales returns, practically no employees had been laid off by the company.

When hostilities broke out in Shanghai, the statement said, the company's factories were forced to discontinue operations. The workers, however, were not laid off completely but given a certain amount of allowance to tide over the crisis.

All these workers have now been re-hired, it was stated, either to resume work in the local factories or to be sent to other factories of the company, especially to those in Hongkong.

Dispute Explained

Commenting on the dispute over wage restoration, the statement disclosed that shortly after the war broke out, the company was compelled to reduce the employees' wages on a "pyramid" scale—the lower the pay check, the less the reduction and the higher the pay check the greater the reduction.

Workers whose pay was below \$20 per month were given no reduction at all while the burden of the reduction was assumed by employees on the higher wages bracket, the statement added. This rule was put into effect in April.

Wages Increased

Early in July, the company was said to have given a 10 per cent increase in the reduced wages of the workers.

The company also revealed that it had been forced to lay off a number of employees in the past few months.

The company stated that it had been forced to lay off a number of employees in the past few months.

The company stated that it had been forced to lay off a number of employees in the past few months.

S. D. REGISTRY

No. S. B. D. 00664

Date

File
R 10 1/2

4385

31 12 37

December 30, 1937.

Afternoon Translation

Eastern Times :-

PROBATIONERS AND APPRENTICES OF COMMERCIAL PRESS
TO FORM SOCIETY

With a view to getting into touch with the probationers and apprentices of the Commercial Press, many of whom were lost sight of after the outbreak of hostilities in Shanghai, Hou Siang-ngau (侯相芳) and a number of others are making preparations to form a Lien-Nyi Society of Probationers and Apprentices of the Commercial Press. All probationers and apprentices of the Commercial Press, including those who have already left the company, may register their names with Mr. Hou at 469 Kiukiang Road in person or by letter.

S.1
31.12.37

D.P. & S. Hou

C. 3 1/2

8/11/37

February 5, 1937

No. D

4385

Date 2-1-37

- 2 -
Labour

Commercial Press - agitation of ex-employees

At 3.50 p.m. February 4, approximately forty ex-employees of the Commercial Press assembled in the Sales Office of the company at 211 Honan Road. Ning Zung-ting (王誠精), one of the number, acted as representative and claimed that the object of the ex-employees was to demand the payment of gratuities. He also denounced the management for having solicited outside assistance in oppressing them. He further stated that the ex-employees would remain on the premises until a definite reply was given by the management.

Subsequently the police arrived and dispersed the ex-employees, four of whom were taken into custody but later cautioned and released.

Union Brewery - workers demand annual bonus

At 12.30 p.m. February 4, workers of the Union Brewery, 130 Ichang Road, assembled in the dining room on the premises, and discussed measures for obtaining satisfaction in regard to the demand for the issue of an annual bonus equivalent to one month's pay. It was decided to refuse to accept a bonus less than the amount demanded. The workers also decided to appeal to the Bureau of Social Affairs for assistance in the event of the management refusing to grant this concession.

SECRET - NOT FOR PRESS PUBLICATION

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

SPECIAL BRANCH
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Political

Movements of Notables

To Nanking

Departed at 11 p.m. February 2 :-

Mr. Hsu Kai, Vice Minister of Finance.

From Nanking

Arrived at 7 a.m. February 3 :-

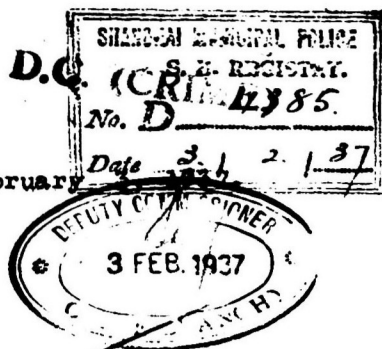
Mr. Tang Fah-jin, member of the C. T. C. of the Kuomintang.

Labour

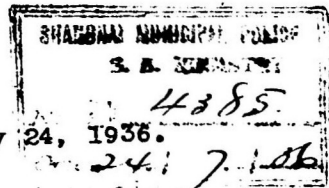
Commercial Press - agitation of ex-employees

During the forenoon of February 2, approximately forty ex-employees of the Commercial Press appeared in the Sales Office of the Company, 211 Honan Road, and demanded their reinstatement, or as an alternative, the payment of gratuities. This demand was rejected by the management, and the ex-employees were dispersed by the Municipal Police.

During the early hours this morning, February 3, copies of two different kinds of pamphlets, purporting to have been issued by the unemployed workers of the Commercial Press were found posted on the premises housing the Sales Office, 211 Honan Road. These pamphlets denounce the management for oppressing unemployed hands with outside assistance, and misappropriating gratuities due to them. In addition, the pamphlets urge Commercial Press employees to form a labour union and support ex-workers in their activities.



74385



- 2 -

1. That branch associations of the Federation be formed in the City and Nantao.
2. That directors be appointed to supervise the organization of the branch associations.

Federation of Anti-Smuggling Committees of Various Places in China - meeting

E-7429

Eight members of the "Federation of Anti-Smuggling Committees of Various Places in China" held a meeting in the Chinese Chamber of Commerce Building, North Soochow Road, between 11.10 a.m. and 12 noon July 23, with Wong Shiao-lan, Chairman of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, presiding. It was decided to appoint Yen Ngoh-sung (嚴若聲), Secretary of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and proprietor of the Sing Sung News Agency, to serve as chief secretary of the Federation, and to establish an office in the Chamber Building.

LABOUR

Commercial Press - issues retiring gratuities

△ 4385

Up to the present, 1,860 ex-workers of the Commercial Press, Honan Road, have received retiring gratuities in accordance with the agreement reached between the management and the ex-workers (Vide I.R. 23/5/36). The gratuities were distributed at the office of Loh Ting-kwei (陸鼎揆), lawyer, Yien Yieh Bank Building, 290 Peking Road, and in future, gratuities will be issued at the offices of the Company every Monday and Thursday. It is estimated that about 200 ex-workers have not yet received gratuities.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE	
S. A. REGISTRY	
No. D	4385
Date	15. 6. 36

June 15, 1936.

June 16 Anniversary - Kuomintang observance

In observance of the anniversary of the sufferings endured by the late Dr. Sun Yat-sen following the defeat of his forces in Canton by General Chen Chuin-ming in 1922, which falls on June 16, a meeting of representatives of local public bodies will be held by the local Kuomintang in its headquarters, Feng Ling Jao, off Route Ghisi, at 9 a.m. June 16.

Labour

Commercial Press - issues retiring gratuities

1,600 ex-workers of the Commercial Press, Honan Road, have received retiring gratuities in accordance with the agreement reached between the management and the ex-workers (Vide I.R. 23/5/36). The gratuities were issued at the office of lawyer Loh Ting-kwei (陸鼎恢) in the Yien Yieh Bank Building, 280 Peking Road.

Certain ex-workers, who are dissatisfied with the terms of the gratuities, have posted notices outside the office of the lawyer urging the ex-workers to demand reinstatement and to register at 1342 North Szechuen Road.

Miscellaneous

China Manufacturers' Union of Shanghai - proposed meeting

The China Manufacturers' Union of Shanghai, 393 Ningpo Road, will hold its 9th annual meeting at 4 p.m. June 15 in the New Asia Hotel, Tiendong Road, for the purpose of electing new members of the Executive and Supervisory Committees of the Union.

D. 4385

May 23, 1936. S. A. REGISTRY.

Nr. D 4385

Date 23 1 1936

- 3 -

Dispute between ex-workers and management of the
Commercial Press - settled

Through the mediation of the Shanghai City Government, the dispute between the management of the Commercial Press and the ex-workers of the Company over the question of re-instatement has been settled on the following terms :-

- 1) That grants according to the following scale be issued to the ex-workers :-
- a) \$40 to those who did not receive the loan of \$40 issued by the Company to some of the ex-workers in 1935.
 - b) \$30 to those who only received a loan of \$20.
 - c) \$20 to those who received a loan of \$40.
- 2) That all those receiving the grants waive the right to be reinstated.

This money will be paid at the office of the ex-workers' attorney, Room 28, 4th floor, 280 Peking Road, between 9 a.m. - 12 noon and 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. May 25, 26 and 27. It is expected that some 800 workers will benefit by the terms of the settlement.

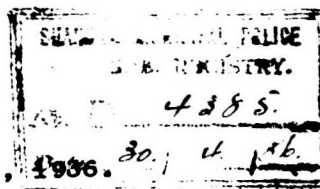
Shanghai Printing and Dyeing Factory - discharges
workers

Owing to trade depression, the Shanghai Printing and Dyeing Factory, 1382 Ward Road, discharged 435 workers of the Weaving Department on May 22.

Miscellaneous

Shaoching Seven Haies Fellow Countrymen's Association
- meeting

On May 22, at 2 p.m. thirty committee members of the Shaoching Seven Haies Fellow Countrymen's Association held a meeting in their office at 330 Ngin Road. The following resolutions were discussed and passed :-



April 30, 1936.

- 3 -

Commercial Press - agitation of ex-workers

At 2.30 p.m. April 29, 1936, eight delegates of the ex-workers of the Commercial Press called at the Sales Office of the Company and asked for a reply to their demand for reinstatement. They were informed that the dispute had been referred to the Shanghai City Government. At 3.30 p.m. these delegates withdrew. Ten minutes later, some fifty ex-workers entered the sales office and endeavoured to force their way to the office of the General Manager. The watchmen employed by the company intervened whereupon the ex-workers commenced to create a disturbance but they were immediately dispersed by a party of Police.

Bolton Bristle Company - workers resume operations

The strike of the 300 workers in the White Bristle, Packing and the Washing Departments of the Bolton Bristle Company, 32 Brennan Road, O.O.L. was called off on the morning of April 29, when the workers agreed to accept the offer of the management of an increase of \$2 in their pay and to carry out an order to stamp their numbers on each finished article.

Miscellaneous

Shanghai Municipality Bean Curd Shop Owners' Association - general meeting of members

Approximately one hundred and ninety members of the Shanghai Municipality Bean Curd Shop Owners' Association held a meeting in the office of the Association, 19 Jao Ka Sah Ka (舊馬棚路), Nantao, between 2.15 p.m. and 3.45 p.m. April 29. During the function, an executive committee

April 25, 1936.

Morning Translation.

The trouble arose over an old dispute between the two men when both were working together about a year ago. Ex-C.P.C. 3421 was later dismissed from the Force. The injured C.P.C. was removed to the Red Cross Hospital where he is lying in a serious condition. The Ex-Constable made his escape, taking away the pistol with him.

China Times and other local newspapers :-

THE FORMER EMPLOYEES OF COMMERCIAL PRESS: ATTITUDE OF SHANGHAI CITY GOVERNMENT

Recently, groups of unemployed workers of the Commercial Press called at its sales office on Honan Road to ask for reinstatement. They were not satisfied with the promise that old hands would be taken on whenever vacancies occur.

The other day the Commercial Press sent a petition to the Shanghai City Government and the Bureau of Social Affairs asking them to put a stop to these visits. The following reply has now been received from the City Government:

"Owing to the January 28 Incident, the Commercial Press discharged its workers by legal procedure. The former employees, upon being instigated by others, are causing trouble without reason. Such behavior is harmful to lawful business and public order. The Bureau of Social Affairs will be instructed to conduct an investigation to ascertain the identity of the agitators and to put a stop to such acts."

Ta Kung Pao and other local newspapers (Nanking telegram) :-

PERSONS CHARGED SHOULD NOT BE ARBITRARILY DETAINED

Persons charged with an offence, who are detained and whose cases have not yet been concluded, should be allowed bail or a restraint should be placed on their movements according to circumstances. This is stipulated in detail in the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The Ministry of Justice has issued many orders to this effect. As the Ministry has been ordered to clear up all cases that are pending, strict vigilance should be exercised when detaining accused.

The Ministry of Justice has now instructed the various High Courts to order their subordinates to observe the Code of Criminal Procedure and all instructions regarding the detention of accused in criminal cases. Severe punishment will be inflicted on officials who arbitrarily detain an accused.

Shun Pao and other local newspapers

DISCOVERY OF NARCOTIC DEN BY CHINESE POLICE

Acting on information that renins and Chinese narcotic dealers are operating a narcotic selling office on the upper floor of the Chi Chong Cigarette and Money

4385

23 4 36

April 23, 1936.

Commercial Press - activities of ex-workers

At 3.30 p.m. April 22, some 30 ex-employees of the Commercial Press assembled at the Sales Office of the Company, 211 Honan Road, with a view to pressing their demand for reinstatement. They withdrew at 5.20 p.m. after having been refused an interview with the General Manager.

14322

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
S. B. REG. STAMP
S. B. D. 21385
date 7-5-36

COMMERCIAL PRESS TROUBLE

Furniture and Flower-Pots Smashed by Crowd

Disgruntled former employees of the Commercial Press, who are seeking reinstatement, caused a minor disturbance at the office of the company in Honan Road, yesterday afternoon, when they were refused an interview with the manager. About thirty men and women participated in a rush upstairs and in the course of the melee a chair and two flower-pots were smashed.

Police from Central Station turned out quickly and cleared the premises of the demonstrators, who offered no resistance. The trouble was the outgrowth of the dismissal of employees as a result of the 1933 hostilities, in which the Chapel building of the company was destroyed.

S. B.
D. R.

Noted
who 1/5

W. H. S.

4385
20 4 36

April 20, 1936.

- 4 -

New Life Movement Inspection Group - members arrive in Shanghai

25729
Some 50 members of the New Life Movement Inspection Group, attached to the Head Office of the New Life Movement Acceleration Association in Nanchang, arrived in Shanghai from Soochow by rail on the forenoon of April 18. They subsequently proceeded in motor trucks to the Civic Centre, where they are residing. The group is under the leadership of Liu Ziang Ih (刘翔一), the Vice-Chairman.

China Aviation Society - meeting

4468
A meeting of the China Aviation Society was held at 4 p.m. April 18 in the office of the Commander of the Membership Canvassing Group of the Society, Chinese Y.M.C.A. Building, 123 Boulevard de Montigny. During the proceedings it was decided to hold a ceremony to mark the formal opening of the new premises of the society in the Civic Centre on May 5.

Labour

Commercial Press Ltd. - Ex-workers demand reinstatement

4468
On the morning of April 18, about 100 ex-workers of the Commercial Press again visited the Sales Office, 211 Honan Road, with a view to demanding reinstatement. Six delegates of the ex-workers interviewed Secretary Chang Seh-liang (张叔良), representing the management, who refused to make concessions and adhered to the original ruling of the Board of Directors that preference would be given to them when there were vacancies in the Company.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE	
S. B. REGISTER	
No. D	
Date	April 20, 1936.

April 20, 1936.

-5-

At 2.30 p.m. the ex-workers then remaining in the Sales Office, held a meeting and passed demands for the issue of :-

- 1) Long service funds due to the ex-workers.
- 2) Retiring gratuities at a rate similar to those issued to the ex-workers of the Iron Department (i.e. ten months' wages).
- 3) Bonus for the year ending January 28, 1932.
- 4) Half of the purchase price (total \$170,000) of the Commercial Press Workers' Club.
- 5) A reserve fund of \$700,000 appropriated from the profits of the company.

These demands were submitted to the management by the delegates of the workers, but were rejected.

At 4.30 p.m. the representatives of the ex-workers advised their colleagues to refer the matter to their legal advisor, whereupon they dispersed.

Annual Meeting of the General Labour Union

One hundred and forty representatives of local labour Unions held the 4th general meeting of the General Labour Union in its office at No.1 Mei Ka Loong, Jao Ka Pang Road, at 2.10 p.m. April 19. A presidium of three persons was appointed and speeches urging labourers to unite for their common benefit were made by several persons present. Subsequently an executive committee of 19 persons and a supervisory committee of 7 persons were elected for the forthcoming term. The following resolutions were then discussed and passed :-

A2985-

4

April 17, 1936.

Afternoon Translation.

no imperialist will ever render assistance to a weak nation which is resisting invasion. Genuine self-salvation is possible when the weak and oppressed nations unite.

Enslaved and butchered countrymen! Do not forget the slogan: "Let all weak and oppressed nations unite."

Ta Kung Pao and other local newspapers :-

EX-WORKERS OF THE COMMERCIAL PRESS.

Upon enquiries made by our reporter yesterday at the Commercial Press, Ltd., an important official of the concern made the following statement :-

"After the printing plant of the Commercial Press was destroyed during the January 28 Incident, the company was obliged to discharge all its employees. With the approval of the Shanghai City Government, it was laid down that when the company resumed business, 80% of the employees would be reinstated. Actually over 90% of our employees are old employees. The allegations that the company had concluded an agreement with the workers to the effect that the entire body of unemployed hands would be reinstated as soon as the company had recovered 80% of its capital are unfounded. As regards the payment of pensions, the company paid off all the pensions on the instructions of the Social Bureau at the time when the employees were discharged. We have in hand receipts showing that the discharged employees had received their money."

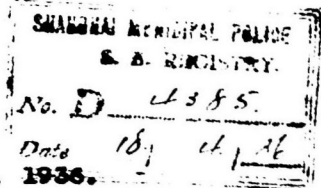
Children Daily News (兒童日報) published the following article on April 16 :-

THE AWAKENING OF THE INDIAN PEOPLE.

Through the trickery of the British Imperialists, a large number of Indians went to the front to eat "healthy pills" (? bullets) and to become "gun ash" (? gun fodder) during the First World War. Their sacrifice came to naught for the Indian people gained nothing by it and are still the slaves of the British Imperialists.

The Indians are now awakening and are no longer willing to exert their effort in the interests of the Imperialists. On April 13 the Indian National Conference passed a resolution opposing the participation of Indians in any war. They are not members of the "peace clique" such as Buddhists; they approve the resistance offered by Abyssinia to Italy.

Indians have awakened. What about the Chinese people? The so-called Manchukuo armies are helping the Japanese Imperialists in their acts of aggression in Outer Mongolia and Soviet Russia.



April 18, 1936.

- 2 -

Local Incense Makers - Strike

About 200 out of 500 workers in the employ of local incense factories declared a strike on April 17 to mark their opposition to a 20% reduction in their wages. Of this number, it is reported that about 40 are employed by factories in the Settlement. These workers continue on strike this morning, while the remainder are working as usual.

At 3 p.m. April 17, about 100 of the strikers held a meeting in the Incense Makers' Union, Zao Kia Road, Nantao, and passed the following resolutions :-

1. That employers be requested to observe the labour agreement and to restore the original rate of pay.
2. That wages be granted for the period of strike.
3. That requests for mediation be made to the Chinese Authorities.
4. That a committee be formed to maintain order for the period of strike.
5. That a propaganda group and a picketing corps, each consisting of twenty members, be organized.

Commercial Press Ltd. - Ex-workers demand reinstatement

Six delegates of the ex-workers of the Commercial Press called on the management of the Company at the Sales Office, 211 Henan Road, at 4 p.m. April 17 with the object of obtaining an answer to their demand for reinstatement. They were received by two representatives of the Management who, however, only promised to give preference to the ex-workers when there were vacancies in the Company. The delegates withdrew at 5.30 p.m.

At 10 a.m. April 18 some sixty ex-workers assembled in the Sales Office and demanded a satisfactory answer to their demand. Despite the advice of their delegates urging them to return home and wait for further information, the ex-workers were still on the premises at 10.40 a.m.

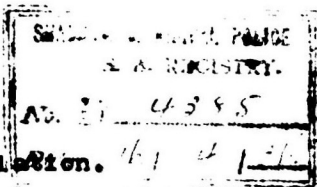
**COMMERCIAL PRESS
BESIEGED BY MOB**

**Former Workers Demand
Pension With Return
Of Firm's Business**

Approximately 490 former workers of the Commercial Press gathered around the premises of the sales department of the company in Foochow Road yesterday afternoon demanding work and pensions. They declared that they were thrown out of work by the destruction of the company's factory in Chapei during the Sino-Japanese hostilities in Shanghai but that they were entitled to get pension and work now since the company had secured its former financial footing.

The mob was dispersed by the police after 6 p.m. but they declared they would come back again on Saturday when they expected a satisfactory answer from there former management. During the demonstration, Mr. Wang Yung-wu, the general manager, was absent.

*File
JNR*



3.

April 16, 1936.

Afternoon Translation.

Ta Kung Pao and other local newspapers:

THE EX-WORKERS OF THE COMMERCIAL PRESS

The Commercial Press Ltd. is the biggest printing concern in China.

During the January 28 Incident, the printing plant of the Commercial Press was totally destroyed by gun fire. Subsequently the company resumed business, but the services of a number of the employees were dispensed with. An agreement was drawn up between the employers and these employees to the effect that the latter would be reinstated as soon as the business of the company improves to the condition that it was in prior to the outbreak of the January 28 Incident. The business of the company has since recovered, yet several hundred of these workers have not yet been given work. Some time ago they detailed representatives to make an appeal to the company for assistance. The appeal was referred to the Board of Directors but the latter failed to give a satisfactory reply.

Shortly after 1 p.m. yesterday about 400 of the workers who have not been reinstated by the company gathered at places along Honan Road and Chiao Tung Road near the Sales Office of the Commercial Press. Upon learning of this, Chinese and foreign police of the International Settlement arrived to maintain peace and order.

Yuan Shih Shing (袁士英), Hsu Chi Tsang (徐志章) and two other representatives of the male workers and Tsi Ah Voong (史阿風) and Moo Yueh Oou (莫月偶), the representatives of the female workers, called on the management of the company and were received by Koo Ping Yuan (顧平遠) and Hsu Peh Tsa (徐百沙) as the General Manager was out on business. The callers submitted the following two demands:-

- (1) That the savings and pensions of the workers be issued.
 - (2) That the unemployed workers be reinstated.
- The two officials promised to refer the demands to the General Manager after which a written reply would be given.

The representatives then summoned all the workers to Chiao Tung Road and informed them of the result of the interview.

After waiting a considerable time for the return of the General Manager, the workers finally requested the management to give careful consideration to their demands for the first days and that they would call again at 10 a.m. April 18 and wait on Chiao Tung Road for a reply.

Representatives of the workers made the following statement:- "When the company resumed business, an agreement was reached between the employees and the labourers at the Shanghai City Government to the effect that all unemployed hands are to be taken on for work as soon as the company has recovered 50% of its capital. Originally, the capital of the company was \$1,000,000 but it has now recovered \$4,000,000 of the capital. Furthermore, the number of new hands and apprentices employed by the company is greater than the number of old hands. The company has not yet answered our views respecting the payment of the savings and pensions of the unemployed."

April 16, 1936.

Afternoon Translation.

Interviewed by our reporter, a responsible official of the company made the following statement :-
 "Despite ~~over~~ production, the company has been doing its best to reinstate the original hands. 90% of the hands in our employ are old employees. The company is developing the business day by day so as to be in a position to reinstate the entire body of these unemployed hands, but for the present it is impossible to do anything."

China Times (Editorial) :-

IS JAPAN FOR OR AGAINST THE REDS?

Japanese newspapers are exerting every effort to provoke ill-feeling between China and Japan. The Japanese authorities are entangling China over the question of united Sino-Japanese defence against the Communists.

As regards the invasion of Shansi by the Red bandits, the Japanese declare that the penetration of Red influence into China would endanger the safety of North China. Not satisfied with intentionally spreading this smoke screen, the Japanese authorities eventually fabricated reports relating to a Sino-Russian Secret Agreement and later spread reports that Chinese military leaders would accept Communism.

The Government troops are making advance in the bandit suppression campaign thereby proving that the reports spread by Japanese are untrue.

The Shanghai "Mainichi" recently published reports to the effect that Chinese military leaders had concluded a secret agreement with the Communist armies, that the Hankow troops had entered Shansi because of the victory of the Communist armies and that the advance to the North of the Hankow troops is intended as a threat against General Sung Chieh Yuan, General Han Fu Chu and others in North China. There is a political significance behind this malicious propaganda.

If Japan really desires to ensure the safety of East Asia, she should respect the integrity of China's territory and sovereign rights, cease fabricating rumours and restore Sino-Japanese relations to what they were before the September 18 Incident.

When the Government troops were about to wipe out the bandits in Shansi, Japan again fabricated rumours with the intention of disturbing the relations between the Government and the district authorities. Japan seems to have concluded a secret pact with the bandits.

We strongly believe that the Chinese people and the authorities in North China fully realize this and will not be misled by rumours.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. M. REGISTRY.
No. D 4385.
Date 7. 1 4. 36.

April 7, 1936.

- 3 -

Aeronautical exhibition in Pootung - opened

The aeronautical exhibition in Pootung, sponsored by the Office of the Commander of the Membership Canvassing Group of the China Aviation Society, was opened on April 5 in the Chinese Y.M.C.A., Lan Nyi Doo, Poo-Kang. The exhibition will remain open for three weeks.

New Life Movement

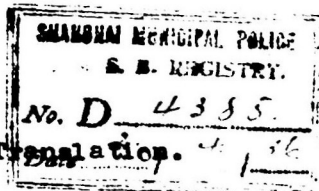
Some twenty members of the New Life Movement Service Group organized by the Police Training Depot of the Bureau of Public Safety functioned on April 6 on Chung Hwa, Wen Kiao and Boon Lai Roads, Nantao, advising pedestrians to observe the tenets of the New Life Movement.

Labour

Commercial Press Ltd. - ex-workers demand reinstatement

On the morning of April 6, eight Chinese claiming to represent the ex-workers of the Commercial Press Ltd. called at the Sales Office, 211 Honan Road, and asked the management to reply to the request for the reinstatement of ex-workers (Vide I.R. 1/4/36).

Chang Soh-liang (張叔良), secretary of the Commercial Press stated that the matter had been discussed at a meeting of the Board of Directors held on April 4, and it had been found impossible to comply with the request. However, the representatives were informed that preference would be given to ex-workers should vacancies arise in the firm.



April 2, 1936.

Afternoon Translation.

Lih Pao (之報):

CLASH BETWEEN WORKERS & POLICE

Prior to the January 28 Incident, the main factory of the Commercial Press, Ltd. on Paoshan Road employed about 800 workers. As the main factory was destroyed during the Incident, most of these 800 workers have been out of employment.

Shortly after 10 a.m. yesterday a number of workers went to the Sales Office of the Commercial Press, Ltd. on Honan Road and demanded that they be given first chance of selection for employment. As the doors to the premises were crowded with workers and as this might affect the business of the store, the management sent a telephone message to the Police asking for assistance.

Upon receipt of this telephone message, the Police despatched three police vans and several tens of detectives and policemen to quell the crowd. As the large crowd was obstructing the traffic, the Police dispersed it by means of force. A minor clash occurred between the workers and the Police. A representative of the workers named Kao Sih Tao (高錫濤), ex-worker of the Printing Department of the Commercial Press Works, was struck with a baton and injured in the left arm. Several old female workers were also injured when they were pushed and trodden upon by the crowd. Kao Sih Tao was later sent to St. Luke's Hospital for treatment.

In an interview with Hsu Chi Tseng (徐啟榮), a representative of the discharged workers, Wong Yulin Woo (王允五), General Manager of the Commercial Press, Ltd., stated that as the matter is one of some importance, a reply would be given the men on April 6 after the matter had been brought up for discussion at a meeting of the Board of Directors on April 4.

The "Holmes" (福爾摩斯) dated April 1:

JAPAN'S ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH FOKIEN

The autonomy movement in Fokien Province is nearing completion. Fokien has been a centre of activities of a certain nation since the September 18th Incident. For this reason, Fokien Province is already being regarded as a protectorate of that nation. The situation in the south of Fokien is most serious.

Amoy and Ningpo are the two principal harbours of Fokien Province. Formerly the Chinese Authorities in Amoy and the Customs used to be notified beforehand by the Consul of a foreign nation when its warships desire to enter any one of the harbours, but since 1934, this practice has not been observed. The warships of a certain nation may have free access to these harbours and no notice is sent to the Chinese district authorities.

The Japanese and Chinese traitors are conducting illegal sales of arms and ammunition; they have also established gambling dens and organized smuggling.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. P. REGISTRY.No. **D** 4385

Date 21 11 36

April 2, 1936.

Commercial Press - Ex-workers demand reinstatement

The 150 ex-workers of the Commercial Press who appeared in the Sales Office, 211 Honan Road, at 9 a.m. April 1, for the purpose of demanding reinstatement (Vide I.R. 1/4/36), were dispersed in the forenoon of the same day by the Municipal Police at the request of the management.

During the visit, three of the ex-workers, chosen as representatives by their colleagues, were received by Tsang Soh-liang (張叔良), Secretary of the Commercial Press, who promised to refer their request to the meeting of the Board of Directors which will be held on April 4, and to furnish a reply on April 6.

April 1, 1936.

-2-

Salvation Federation and the Business Circles National Salvation Association. The handbill further denounces the action of the Chinese Municipal Authorities in arresting and assaulting the students of the Fuh Tan University and accuses the Police of having fired on the students.

Labour

Commercial Press - ex-workers demand reinstatement

At 9 a.m. to-day, April^{1st}, about 150 ex-workers of the Commercial Press appeared in the Sales Office, 211 Honan Road, for the purpose of demanding reinstatement. They are still on the premises waiting for a satisfactory reply from the management.

These ex-workers carried white cloth banners and paper slips bearing the following inscriptions :-

Banner Observe law and order;

Demand reinstatement in accordance with the original agreement.

Paper Slip Distressed workers of the Commercial Press who were thrown out of employment following the "January 28 Incident" demand reinstatement.

Miscellaneous

Chinese deportees from Japan arrive in Shanghai

On March 31, a group of six Chinese expelled from Japan arrived in Shanghai in the s.s. "Yamato Maru." The deportees are staying in the Lou Heng Sing (老恒生) Hotel, Nantao Road, and will later leave for the Jao Loh Village (佻乐村).

March 30, 1936.

- 4 -

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. A. RESIDENCY
NO. 11 4385
Date Sat 3-3-36

General Yang Hu assumes post of Shanghai-Woosung Garrison Commander

General Yang Hu, Commander of the Local Peace Preservation Corps, who was recently appointed Shanghai-Woosung Garrison Commander in succession to Mayor Wu Teh-chen, who resigned, assumed office at the Garrison Headquarters at 10 a.m. March 28.

Labour

Unrest among ex-workers of the Commercial Press

A number of ex-workers of the Commercial Press, 211 Honan Road, who are agitating for re-instatement, have submitted the following demands to the management of this concern :-

1. That all ex-workers be either reinstated or given retiring gratuities.
2. That the ownership of the land on Paoshan Road, on which the Commercial Press 'Workers' Club was situated prior to its being destroyed during the Sino-Japanese hostilities in 1932, be restored to the ex-workers.

On the afternoon of March 29, when the shareholders of the Commercial Press were holding a meeting in the Chinese Chamber of Commerce Building, North Soochow Road, for the purpose of electing new directors to serve on the Board for the year 1936, some 60 of these ex-workers assembled on North Soochow Road and attempted to enter the building for the purpose of attending the meeting. A representative of the management interviewed three delegates of the ex-workers and advised them that their demands would be considered by the new directors. The workers then dispersed.

October 31, 1935.

-3-

Commercial Press - unrest among ex-workers

As a result of an announcement made by the Commercial Press on October 21 that it would issue small loans to ex-employees of the company who had been unable to secure other employment, about 30 ex-workers presented themselves at the sales office of the concern at 211 Honan Road at 3 p.m. October 30 and demanded loans. The management refused to grant loans to these people on the grounds that they are now employed and therefore not entitled to participate in the scheme. The ex-workers attempted to cause trouble but were finally persuaded to leave the premises at 5.30 p.m.

Shanghai Hire Car Chauffeurs' Union

The Shanghai Hire Car Chauffeurs' Union, 41 Hong An Fang, Yang Pang Road, City, on October 30, distributed to hire car chauffeurs throughout Shanghai copies of a handbill announcing that the Union has been properly reorganised and urging all chauffeurs to register.

This Union will hold its inaugural meeting at 2 p.m. November 1 in the office of the General Labour Union, Mei Ka Loong, City.

MiscellaneousArrival of Amoy Refugees in Shanghai

23 refugees from famine areas in Amoy arrived in the Eastern District from Sungking on October 30 and lodged on Amoy Street Avenue near Kowloon Road, S.C.L. They will leave for Canton this morning, October 31.

January 7,

43.85

11 1 33

Labour (2)

called on the Bureau of Social Affairs and requested it to mediate in the dispute.

A representative of the local Kuomintang together with two representatives of the Union visited the Factory at 3 p.m. when a mediation conference was held. The conference broke up at 4 p.m. without any result.

Commercial Press - Manager receives threatening letters

Since August 1931 the manager of the Commercial Press, 211 Hongnan Road, has been in receipt of several threatening letters purporting to emanate from the workers of the Factory who were paid off following the destruction of the premises on Pacshan Road during the Sino-Japanese hostilities.

On January 3, the manager and the assistant manager each received at their homes through the medium of the post a booklet embedded in the pages of which was one round of pistol ammunition.

Of the 3,450 workers originally employed by this firm some 1,000 have been reinstated while the remainder with the exception of about 20 who live in outports and have not come to Shanghai to receive the money, have been paid off.

It is learned, however, that of those whose services were dispensed with, about 2,000 are dissatisfied with the terms of the settlement and filed a suit with the Court against the management. The first hearing of which took place on Sept. 20 since when the case has been pending.

411385
Here is a file on this subject

5

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C & S. B. REGISTRY

No. D 3546

April 12, 1932. 1 4 12.

The China Evening News:

MEDIATION IN COMMERCIAL PRESS WORKER'S DISPUTE.

The Social Bureau of the Municipality of Greater Shanghai is planning to mediate in the dispute between the employees and the employers of the Commercial Press at 2 p.m. April 12. Messrs. Kur Cha Tsa and Chen Tung Su will represent the employees and probably Mr. Wong Yung Hu will represent the employers. It is learned that these employees will ask the employers to resume their business as formerly, but should this be impossible, they will ask to be paid six months wages and the return of their savings.

April 5, 1932.

Commercial Press- Payment of bonus to ex-employees

Between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. April 4, 1932, fourteen ex-employees of the Commercial Press each received \$20.00 from the amangement as bonus. It is reported that further issue of bonus to other ex-employees of the press will be made daily by the management.